

INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. *Med 86/20*

COUNTRY Panama

DATE DISTR 9 AUG 68

SUBJECT Possible Split in PDP

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1A

DATE OF INFO.

25X1X SUPPLEMENT TO [REDACTED]
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

1. J. Napoleon Nativi, member of the Partido del Pueblo (PDP), distributed a lengthy document criticizing the PDP and its leaders, and proposing the formation of a "real" Communist Party in Panama, following the congress of the Federacion Sindical de Trabajadores de la Republica de Panama (FSTEP) on 17 April 1951. Members of the PDP Directorate stated they believed the document was written by Romulo Escobar, Adolfo Benedetti, and others, with the collaboration of Celso Solano, former Secretary General of the PDP who was expelled from the Party late in 1950.
2. The document caused immediate consternation among PDP leaders, because they feared its effect on the Third National Congress of the PDP, which was scheduled to begin 27 April 1951. By 24 April 1951 the Santa Ana Brigade of the PDP had held several discussions of the position it should take concerning Nativi's statements at the Congress. Many members were of the opinion that the statements criticizing the leaders of the PDP for departing from the true Communist line were essentially correct. A desire for the return to the Party of the "old guard" Communists was voiced by several members. Hugo Victor, Secretary-General of the PDP, and Reuben Souza, leading member of the PDP, stated that the views expressed in the document should be discussed officially at the Congress and not be made a matter of public display.
3. Unidentified members of the PSP were selected to conduct a complete investigation of Nativi, Benedetti, Escobar, and Solano to determine whether writing and distributing the document was an act of treason to the PDP or one of true Communists who were trying to advance the cause of the Party.

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